



URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF WINSFORD



ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1967

by the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
and the
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Divisional Medical Officer,
David Street,
Castle,
NORTHWICH,
Cheshire.

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF WINSFORD

R E P O R T

of the


MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the

YEAR 1967



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1967

CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

Councillor P. G. Tipple, J.P.

VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

Councillor G. Morgan

MEMBERS OF

THE HOUSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Councillor G. C. T. Tomlinson	-	Chairman
Councillor L. Knight	-	Vice-Chairman
Councillor Mrs. J. Wrench		
Councillor L. Jackson		
Councillor Mrs. M. O. Forgham, J.P.		
Councillor B. A. Brooks		
Councillor J. Wilkinson		

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF WINSFORD

Telephone No.:

Northwich 4251/2

Hartford Hill,
David Street,
Northwich,
Cheshire.

September, 1968

To the Chairman and Members of the
Winsford Urban District Council

Dear Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the environmental health and sanitary circumstances of the Council's district for the year 1967.

For the information of Members I enclose my Annual Report to the Divisional Health Committee.

I would once again like to express my appreciation to Mr. Rogerson, the Staff of the Public Health Department and the Council's Chief Officers for their co-operation and help during the year.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient Servant,

F. SEYMOUR

Medical Officer of Health.

S T A F F

Medical Officer of Health

F. Seymour, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Other Appointments: The Medical Officer of Health is also Medical Officer of Health for Northwich Urban and Rural District Councils, Runcorn Urban and Rural District Councils, Middlewich Urban District Council and Divisional Medical Officer to the Mid-Cheshire and Runcorn Division.

Chief Public Health Inspector & Estates Officer

T. H. Rogerson, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Cert. R.S.H. Meat & Other Foods

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

F. Lamb, M.R.S.H.
Cert. R.S.H. Meat & Other Foods

Additional Public Health Inspectors

R. D. Clarke, M.R.S.H., Cert. R.S.H. Meat & Other Foods	N. T. Taylor, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Cert. R.S.H. Meat & Other Foods
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Authorised Meat Inspectors

B. Porter W. I. Wallace F. Breeze

Trainee Meat Inspector

J. Malek

Pest Control Operator

J. Williams

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S E C T I O N I

GENERAL AND VITAL STATISTICS

(1) COMPARATIVE GENERAL STATISTICS - 1966/67

	Year	
	1966	1967
Population (estimated mid-Year)	17,360	18,200
Area (Acres of District)	7,094	7,094
Rateable Value	£491,312	£534,878
Product of Penny Rate (Estimated)	£ 2,130 (1966/67)	£2,688
Estimated number of inhabited dwellings	5,238 (31.12.66)	5,700

(2) VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Comparable Figs. for England & Wales</u>
Legitimate	227	223	450	
Illegitimate	7	9	16	
	<u>234</u>	<u>232</u>	<u>466</u>	
Crude Birth Rate per 1000 population			25.6	
* Corrected Live Birth Rate per 1000 population (Comparability Factor 0.82)			21.0	17.2
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total births			3.8	
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	
<u>Still-Births</u>	7	8	15	
<u>Live and Still-Births</u>	241	240	481	
Still-birth Rate per 1000 total live and still-births			31	14.8

The still-birth rate was high and as a consequence the perinatal mortality rate. Variations are bound to occur in a relatively small population, due purely to chance. However it does serve to emphasize the importance of expectant mothers continuing to take advantage of the anti-natal care provided by general practitioners, mid-wives and hospitals.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	5	6	11
Illegitimate	-	-	-

* see Page 2.

Infant Mortality Rates

Comparable Figs.
for England & Wales

Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 total live births ...	24	18.3
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under four weeks) per 1000 total live births ...	8.6	12.5
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under one week) per 1000 total live births ...	8.6	10.8
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still-births and deaths under one week combined per 1000 total live and still- births) ...	4.0	25.4
Maternal Mortality (including abortion) ...	Nil	

<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
All Causes	104	77	181
Death Rate per 1000 population			9.9

* Corrected Death Rate per 1000 population
(Comparability Factor 1.50) 15.8 11.2

* NOTE: The corrected birth rates are those which are obtained when the crude local rates are adjusted to make allowance for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from that for England and Wales. The corrected rates are comparable with the crude rates for England and Wales, and the corresponding adjusted rates for any other area.

Causes of Death

As will be seen from the following table the two principal causes of death were diseases of the heart and circulation which caused approximately 48% of the deaths, and cancer which caused approximately 18%

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	2	6
2. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	4	-	4
3. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1	1
4. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	-	-
5. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	10	11	21
6. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	-	1
7. Diabetes	1	-	1
8. Vascular lesions of nervous system	15	14	29
9. Coronary disease, angina	26	9	35
10. Other heart disease	5	7	12
11. Other circulatory disease	3	8	11
12. Pneumonia	4	3	7
13. Bronchitis	9	8	17
14. Other diseases of respiratory system	3	1	4
15. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	-	1
16. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-
17. Congenital malformations	3	-	3
18. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	8	10	18
19. Motor vehicle accidents	3	1	4
20. All other accidents	2	2	4
21. Suicides	2	-	2
	<u>104</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>181</u>

S E C T I O N I I

HEALTH SERVICES

(1) Information concerning the statutory and voluntary Health and Welfare Services in the area are given in the Appendix of the Divisional Medical Officer's Report which is enclosed, and further details may be obtained from him at the Divisional Medical Office, David Street, Northwich. Telephone number - Northwich 4251.

(2) HOSPITAL FACILITIES

The Winsford Urban District lies within the area of the Manchester Regional Hospital Board, whose offices are at Cheetwood Road, Manchester 8. Telephone number -- Deansgate 6441.

(3) LABORATORY FACILITIES

Specimens and samples taken by the Health Department are submitted for examination to the Chester Public Health Laboratory.

(4) AMBULANCE SERVICE

The ambulance service is provided by the County Council and is under radio control from Central Control at County Hall, Chester. All 999 calls made by member of the public are immediately connected to this central control. The arrangement for non-urgent calls is that the patient or general practitioner should ring the Northwich Depot - Telephone number - Northwich 3355.

S E C T I O N I I I

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948-1951

Section 47

Under this Section when persons (a) are suffering from grave chronic disease or, being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions, and (b) are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention, the local authority may apply to a Court of Summary Jurisdiction for an Order to remove the person to a suitable place.

With regard to the expeditious procedure as laid down in the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951, the Medical Officer of Health or any duly qualified person acting for the Medical Officer of Health is authorised by the Council to make the requisite application to a Justice of the Peace.

Section 50

Under this Section the District Council has the duty to arrange for the burial of any person who has died in their area, if no suitable arrangements for the disposal of the body are being made.

It was not necessary to take any action under either of these Sections during the year.

S E C T I O N I V

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The following are the infectious diseases notified for the years 1966 and 1967:

DISEASE	Cases Notified	
	1966	1967
Measles	126	130
Scarlet Fever	4	5
Respiratory Tuberculosis	3	1
Non Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	-
Dysentery	20	-

SECTION V

TOWN DEVELOPMENT

The Master Plan to expand the town's population to 70,000 by the mid 1980's was approved in July by the Council and the County Council.

To ensure, as far as possible, the balanced growth of population, it is proposed that the period of planned intake be spread over a generation. Expansion involves the introduction of new employment to the town, the construction of 12,500 new houses, new schools, the expansion of the town centre, and the development of the recreational and welfare facilities.

1. HOUSING

The Crook Lane Estate provided the main source of houses for letting during 1967, and during this period most of the estate was landscaped. Trees and shrubs have been planted on the open grassed spaces which has greatly improved the general appearance of the estate.

The Crook Lane Community Centre was opened in July 1967, and has proved highly successful. It is used by many organisations, representing all the different age groups from a Toddlers Club to an Old Persons Luncheon Club. A branch library was also opened in this centre.

New shops began trading on the grange Estate and the supervised flatlets for old people on this Estate should be ready for occupation in July 1968.

The first houses on St. Johns and Glebe Green Estates were occupied and these will be followed by development of the Mount Pleasant estate. Detailed plans for the sub-centre on this estate are being prepared.

Two areas of land on Mount Pleasant have been sold by the Council to developers for the building of private houses.

House purchasers are being offered a wide choice in house type and price range.

In addition, the Council is offering a number of choice building plots for sale to individuals who wish to build their own houses.

A Housing Society has also been formed to erect houses for rent to Society members.

2. SOCIAL AMENITIES

The Council initiated the formation of a Local Arts Society, and Old Peoples Welfare Council and a Sports Council during the year. These organisations have fired the enthusiasm of many interested persons and are making a large contribution to the social development of the town.

The new Civic Hall was officially opened in December by the Minister of Housing and Local Government. The Hall should prove a very useful facility to the town, and especially to the newly formed societies who can stage events there.

Plans for children's equipped play areas on the Grange and Crook Lane housing estate have been approved but these cannot be provided until the financial situation improves.

A report on the provision of playgrounds on other Estates in Winsford, is in preparation together with the provision of two play parks, with supervised play leaders.

Two football pitches are being laid out on an 11-acre site of land on the Grange Estate, and the recreational use of the rest of that area is being planned.

Plans have been prepared for the conversion of an 18th century farm house into an Arts Centre, and work is progressing on the design of the first Sports Centre for the town, to include a Sports Hall, heated swimming pool and many outdoor facilities.

3. COMMUNITY SERVICE

To help new residents settle happily in Winsford the Council employs two special social workers. Their job is to advise newcomers on aspects of their new surroundings and the town and help them with domestic problems. They also advise on the formation of clubs and organisations and generally see to it that new residents are properly integrated with the established community. To foster good neighbourliness new community centres are provided on the new estates. Club meetings for the elderly, tenants meetings, youth clubs and other social functions are already in being.

4. INDUSTRY

Factory building has continued on the industrial estate and many existing factories are expanding their premises.

Work started on five new factory buildings during 1967, including stage two of the English Electric Computers factory.

At the year end, approximately 3,060 people were employed in twenty-five factories on this estate.

5. HEALTH CENTRES

In considering the development of Health Centres for the town four areas have been considered:-

- i) Wharton - here the extension and conversion of the present clinic is planned for the 1968/69 building programme, sufficient land having already been reserved for this purpose.
- ii) Town Centre - a central Health Centre is planned somewhat larger than the others to provide specialized diagnostic facilities and additional services for the whole town such as child guidance.
- iii) Mount Pleasant - it is planned to provide a Health Centre in this area to serve the population which will be approximately 8,050 by 1970. As an interim measure it is proposed that two Council houses be temporarily converted to provide a surgery for a new practice which it is hoped can be established in this area.
- iv) Southern Area This will be developed last, but it can be anticipated that a Health Centre will be required for approximately four to six doctors.

Providing the above plans come to fruition successfully, each area of the town will be served by a Health Team of General Practitioners working closely with Midwives, Home Nurses, Health Visitors, ancillary Nursing Staff and Social Workers. Each team will itself be working in close contact with the hospital services and County Council staff such as School Medical Officers, Child Psychiatrists, Speech Theropists, Dental Surgeons, Child Care Officers etc.

This development I am certain can only lead to an improvement in the medical and social services in the town.

SECTION VI

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA

Statement of Inspections made and Notices issued

Nature of Inspections made	Number	Number of Notices Served		Results of Service of Notices	
		Statutory	Informal	Notices complied with	Remaining in hand
1. Dwelling-houses (General)	499	15	66	73	8
2. Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
3. Tents, Sheds, Caravans	49	-	-	-	-
4. Septic Tanks, Pails, W.C.'s	8	-	4	4	-
5. House Drainage	53	-	3	3	-
6. Ditches, Water Courses, Etc.	2	-	-	-	-
7. Offensive accumulations	20	-	16	15	1
8. Keeping of animals	1	-	-	-	-
9. Offensive trades	5	-	3	3	-
10. Slaughterhouses (Private)	1,616	-	23	21	2
11. Premises where food is handled, produced, sold or consumed	183	-	51	48	3
12. Dairies	6	-	1	1	-
13. Factories and other premises under the Act	161	-	12	10	2
14. Refuse bins	1	-	1	1	-
15. Places of amusement	2	-	2	2	-
16. Filthy or verminous premises	48	-	18	13	5
17. Water supply	4	-	-	-	-
18. Miscellaneous	312	1	17	18	-
19. Infectious Diseases	4	-	7	7	-
20. Interviews	323	-	-	-	-
21. <u>Sampling:</u>					
Water	12	-	-	-	-
Ice-cream	10	-	-	-	-
Other Foods	45	-	-	-	-
22. Hairdressers and Barbers	20	-	2	2	-
23. Atmospheric Pollution	81	-	28	28	-
24. Markets	6	-	4	4	-
25. Disinfestation (Rodent and Insect)	1,587	-	10	9	1
26. Noise Abatement	2	-	2	2	-
27. Offices, Shops and Railway Premises	63	-	23	21	2

WATER SUPPLY

The mains supply is provided by the Mid and South East Cheshire Water Board from bore holes in the Delamere area. This is fed to the storage reservoir at Whitby's Lane, Over.

This water is satisfactory in quality, the quantity having been supplemented to meet the requirements of the Town Development which is being undertaken. The water supplied does not have a plumb-solvent action.

Twenty-five samples of mains water were taken by the Water Board and twelve by the Department. All were satisfactory on bacteriological examination.

All other dwelling houses number 5,543 and occupied by 18,200 persons are supplied from the public water mains direct to internal taps within the houses. There are no dwelling houses supplied by means of stand-pipes.

Only one farm and one cottage occupied by seven persons and situated at Petty Pool, Whitegate, are without a mains supply. These premises are situated a considerable distance from a water main and the supply is taken by gravity from a shallow well. The bacteriological condition of this well water varies considerably, sometimes showing evidence of faecal coli. The occupiers have, therefore, been advised to boil the water before use.

VERDIN OPEN AIR SWIMMING POOL

The attendance for the 1967 season was 43,339 compared with 34,787 during 1966.

Eleven samples of swimming bath water were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination. Ten were satisfactory, one unsatisfactory. Following receipt of the latter result investigations were immediately undertaken and a fault in the chlorination system remedied.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The refuse collection and disposal service is under the direction of the Engineer and Surveyor, who reports as follows:-

The weekly collection cycle from all domestic properties has been maintained. The number of properties receiving this service continues to increase with the expansion of the town. Many of the new houses being built have no open fires and no means of burning any refuse. This fact has resulted in a considerable increase in the volume of refuse to be collected.

An additional continuous loading refuse collection vehicle of similar type to those already in use has been placed on order for delivery in 1968 to meet the ever increasing demands of the refuse collection service.

The Council operates a free service whereby, on demand, items of domestic refuse are removed which cannot be accommodated on the normal collection rounds. This is designed to combat the indiscriminate dumping of unwanted articles.

Refuse is being disposed of by tipping at the site adjoining the Wades Lane Sewage Disposal Works. The vast increase in volume of refuse being received at the site will make the life of the tip shorter than was anticipated and other sites or other means of disposal will have to be found within the next few years.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

I am indebted to the Engineer and Surveyor for the following information on sewage and sewage disposal:-

The main sewage disposal works at Wades Lane have functioned satisfactorily

throughout the year, the final effluent being of a high standard. Difficulties which were experienced with the drying of sludge have largely been overcome by chemical dosing. The total volume of sewage treated at the Works continues to rise with the increasing population of the district.

The areas now being developed to the West of the Swanlow Ridge are being connected to the sewers which flow to the Wades Lane Works by means of pumping the flow through a rising main.

The three small disposal works at Meadow Bank, Clive and Whitegate continue to function satisfactorily. A scheme is being prepared for connecting part of the Littler Lane area to the main sewerage system of the town. When this is in operation it will enable the old, unsatisfactory sewage tank in that area to be superceded and the property connected to it to be improved.

Night soil collection is done by an attachement on the motor gully/cesspool emptier. A free service for emptying domestic septic tanks is also operated.

The increased volume of work on sewer maintenance and gully emptying has made it necessary to operate a second motor gully/cesspool emptier and a new machine is on order for delivery in 1968.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

There are still properties in the area with pail or privy closets. These are properties which are unable to be connected to the sewer by reason of distance or levels.

As new development takes place and consequently new sewers are constructed, so it will be possible to arrange connections to the new system. Littler Lane is a particular example of this.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

A block of modern public conveniences has been provided in the shopping centre and these, together with the older public conveniences in the Town have been maintained. Damage by vandalism and misuse makes maintenance difficult.

INSECT CONTROL

It can be seen from the table below that there has been an increase in the number of treatments given by some 48 over 1966. This is a result of an increase in the number of inspections and reports by the Public Health Inspectors, in conjunction with the Housing Department.

Four insect control contracts are also held by the Council. These contracts are for 8-monthly treatments for each contract. These treatments are not included in the tabulated figures.

	Ants	Mites	Fleas	Bed-Bugs	Beetles	Others	Total
1965	42	7	7	7	6	18	87
1966	31	2	-	8	6	24	71
1967	41	8	1	21	5	43	119

PROBLEM FAIMILIES

Inevitably with the increase in population there has been a rise in the number of problem families, with which the Public Health Department is

concerned i.e. those whose premises are in a dirty condition and which may also be verminous.

The Area Children's Officer has been approached by the Council to co-ordinate the rehabilitation of such families, and close liaison is maintained with her department. Undoubtedly the solution to most of these cases will only come after years of patient care, work and rehabilitation. At the same time the Department has a duty to ensure that certain minimum standards of cleanliness are maintained.

RODENT CONTROL

Contracts are held by the Council with industrial and business premises in the town. These contracts provide for regular inspections and treatments of premises and this ensures that the rodent population is reduced to a minimum.

Rodent control on the Council's tip has been maintained at a satisfactory level by means of regular treatments. Recent inspection of the closed tips revealed very little rodent activity and treatments since the inspections have eradicated the rodents completely.

As can be seen from the table below there has been a considerable increase in the number of rodent treatments during the year. This can be attributed to the increase in building activity within the area.

- 1965 - 234 treatments covering rats, mice and moles
- 1966 - 166 treatments (98 rats, 10 moles and 58 mice infestations)
- 1967 - 276 treatments (190 rats, 5 moles and 81 mice infestations)

LICENSED CARAVAN SITES

There are five licensed caravan sites in the area and details are given below. Of these caravan sites, two have yet to complete the work required by the site licence conditions, and the owners are being pressed to have the work completed as quickly as possible.

Periodic inspections are made of all licensed sites to maintain a high standard within the legal requirements.

Site	Area (acres)	No. of Caravans	
		Residential	Recreational
1. "Ideal" Caravan Site	2.73	26	29
2. Stock Hill	3.11	Nil	45
3. Newbridge, Meadow Bank	0.61	3	12
4. Stock Hill, Bottom Flash	3.0	Nil	46
5. Dock House, Caravan Site	0.87	Nil	9

RECREATION GROUNDS

The existing recreation grounds at Over and Wharton are being maintained with bowling greens, tennis courts, children's play equipment and other facilities. It is hoped to proceed with a scheme for the extension and improvement of the Over recreation grounds. The Wharton recreation ground is included in the proposed Wharton Sports Complex.

REGISTRATION OF HAIRDRESSERS AND BARBERS

All persons carrying on the trade of Hairdresser and Barber are required to register themselves and their premises with the Council under the provisions of Section 148 of the Cheshire County Council Act 1953.

3 - Gentlemen's Hairdressers, and
17 - Ladies' Hairdressers are registered

During the course of routine inspections minor contraventions have been found and brought to the attention of the management.

CANAL BOATS

No canal boats are now registered with the Council.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no common lodging houses in the district.

KNACKER'S YARDS

There are no knacker's yards in the district.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

The C.W.S. Bacon Factory is registered under Section 107 of the Public Health Act, 1936 to undertake gut scraping, blood drying and bone boiling.

A complaint was received from a tenant of the new Council estate regarding odours from the plant. An inspection revealed defective equipment, which was renewed or repaired as necessary, and this, together with a thorough cleansing of the inside of the plant, reduced the smells to an inoffensive level.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT, 1964

There are five persons registered as scrap metal dealers.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

This Act governs premises where pet animals are sold and requires the owners of the pet shop to be licensed. Suitable accommodation and care must be provided for the animals in accordance with the Act.

One premise is licensed under this Act.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960 AND CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ACT, 1953

Two complaints of noise were received during the year, both of these complaints related to excessive noise from one of the factories on the Industrial Estate, and the noise was caused during night-time deliveries of raw materials to the factory. After interviews with the factory manager and with the delivery people concerned it was mutually agreed to modify the delivery procedure to minimize the noise.

Since these points have been implemented no further complaints have been received.

SECTION VII

The following table gives details of progress made in Smoke Control Areas up to the end of the year 1967

Locality	No.	Acres	Approx. No. of premises when fully developed			Operation of Order
			Houses	Other Premises	No. Occupied at 31.12.67	
Grange Estate Council Houses Private Houses Nun House Farm Estate, Crook Lane	1	112	1,050	8	1,050	1st January, 1961
	2	38	43		4	
			375	10	162	1st April, 1963
Spring Bank Estate off High Street	3	8	82	-	79	1st October, 1962
Over Hall Estate	4	225	2,320	13	107	1st September, 1963
Stewart's Estate Swanlow Lane	5	4	40	-	40	- do -
Westgate Estate off Delamere Street	6	3	19	-	17	- do -
Crook Lane Estate	7	43	679	7	684	- do -
Town Centre	8	20	14 (Maisonettes)	165	29	1st July, 1966
Wharton Road West	9	155	--	17	4	1st May, 1968

CONTROL OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

During the year a new Smoke Control Order entitled the No. 9 Wharton Road West Smoke Control Order 1967 was made, this Order was designated to control the smoke emissions from the light industry factories to be built on this land. The Order covers some 155 acres and becomes operative on the 1st May, 1968.

A Bill was placed before Parliament proposing new legislation to control the emissions from Motor Vehicles and to make an offence of selling unauthorised fuels in Smoke Control Areas. Other Sections of the Bill refer to emissions of Dark Smoke.

It is hoped to arrange for a visit of the new mobile exhibition unit of the Solid Smokeless Fuels Federation during next year so that advice can be given to residents of properties burning Solid Smokeless fuels in smoke control areas.

The results of the deposit gauge analysis indicate a fall in pollution as shown in the table. Due to variations in atmospheric conditions from year to year, no undue significance can be attached to this fall, as it is only after prolonged observations that significance trends can be assessed.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION Table of Insoluble deposits in
 tons per square mile

	Woolworths Store	New School - Grange Lane (Sewage Disposal Works)	Wharton Church
1964	53.3	19.2	32.0
1965	45.4	20.1	52.0
1966	61.9	*29.1	48.6
1967	49.3	27.1	36.0
* Indicates change of site of deposit gauge			

S E C T I O N VIII

HOUSING ACT, 1957

SLUM CLEARANCE

During the early part of the year the Council arranged through tender to demolish the Clough Row houses as since they had been vacated children had entered and the premises had become dangerous.

Periodic surveys of small blocks of cottages are made to ascertain the standard of fitness under the above Act and when unfit properties are discovered they are closed pending demolition. It would seem that this policy is the most effective for the small problem associated with the town.

The following table illustrates the activities of the Council in slum clearance during the post-war years:-

YEAR	Number of Houses Demolished
1945-1954	27
1955	19
1956	24
1957	22
1958	13
1959	6
1960	9
1961	16
1962	6
1963	62
1964	17
1965	6
1966	18
1967	16
TOTAL	261

IMPROVEMENT OF HOUSES (HOUSING ACT, 1964)

The Council has continued its policy of making improvement grants for the modernisation of private houses and during the year 11 discretionary grants and 10 standard grants have been approved.

HOUSING

Twenty-one new garages were provided on existing estates in the Wharton area and schemes have been prepared for more garages on other existing estates.

The pre-war Council houses are to be comprehensively improved and a scheme is in preparation for this.

OVERCROWDING

	No. of dwellings	No. of families	No. of persons
(a) The number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year, together with the number of families and the number of persons dwelling therein	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) The number of new cases of overcrowding reported during 1967	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) The number of cases of overcrowding relieved and the number of persons concerned in 1967	1	1	6
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses in respect of which L.A. have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding have again become overcrowded	Nil	Nil	Nil
(e) Any other particulars with respect to conditions in relation to overcrowding upon which the M.O.H. may consider desirable to report or which the Minister may from time to time require	Nil	Nil	Nil

COUNCIL HOUSING

At the 31st December, 1967 the Council owned 2,899 dwellings. The Grange Estate was complete, except for a block of 25 supervised flatlets with warden accommodation which is expected to be ready in the early summer of 1968. 671 dwellings had been completed on the Crook Lane Estate and 56 on the St. John's Estate making a total of 1,777 new dwellings built under the Town Development Scheme.

Work was well advanced on the St. John's and School Lane Estates and most of the incoming population will be moved to these two estates during the first half of 1968. A tender had been accepted for the Mount Pleasant Estate and this will provide the major source of Council housing in the last few months of 1968.

611 new dwellings were completed in 1967 and in addition 186 vacancies occurred in existing dwellings making a total of 797 houses available for letting. The allocation of these tenancies can be analysed as follows:-

Local Domestic cases	...	...	...	40
Slum Clearance	...	...	...	7
Central Redevelopment Area	...	...	...	6
Manchester Overspill	...	...	...	34
Liverpool Overspill	...	...	...	509
Other Industrial nominations	...	...	...	201
				—
				797
				—

TRANSFERS AND EXCHANGES

Seventy-nine tenants were transferred to alternative accommodation more suitable to their requirements and 26 mutual exchanges of tenancy were authorised.

HOUSING WAITING LIST

In December, 1967 the position was as follows:-

Applicants without separate accommodation (Lodgers)	...	54
Applicants with separate accommodation (Tenants, Owner/Occupiers)	...	50
Applicants living outside the Council's district	...	61
		<hr/>
		165
		<hr/>

34 of the above applicants are over 60 years of age

101 new applications were received during the year

RENT ACT, 1957

No applications for Certificates of Disrepair have been received since 1960. Since the introduction of the Act, only 16 applications have been made for certificates, 14 of these occurring in 1958.

S E C T I O N IX

FACTORIES

There are 105 registered factories in the area engaged in the industries detailed below:-

Auto-Engineering	...	...	...	14
Bakeries	...	...	...	9
Builders	...	...	...	7
Clothing	...	...	...	11
Electro-Plating	...	...	...	1
Engineering	...	...	...	7
Electrical Engineering .	...	...	...	3
Foundries	...	...	...	2
Corn Mills	...	...	...	1
Additives to Animal Feeding Stuffs	...	...	...	1
Plastic Coating	...	...	...	1
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	5
Salt Works	...	...	...	3
Tent Makers	...	...	...	1
Dairies	...	...	...	1
Leather Goods and Components...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	21
Works of Engineering Construction	...	...	...	16
				<u>105</u>

Fifteen persons are employed as outworkers; all work for clothing manufacturers.

FACTORIES INSPECTION

(1) Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health

Premises	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	No. of	
			Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are enforced by Local Authority	7	12	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	82	126	12	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	16	23	-	-
Totals	105	161	12	-

(2) Cases in which defects were found:-

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temp. (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	-	-	1	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	10	-	2	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	-	-	1	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outworkers)	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	12	10	-	4	-

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

This Act has now been supplemented by various Regulations concerning the welfare of persons working in premises subject to the Act. The Regulations govern standards for washing accommodation, sanitary facilities, first-aid materials and guarding of dangerous machinery, etc.

Inspections have continued throughout the year and any contraventions have been brought to the notice of the owner or occupier as necessary.

The following table covers the period 1st January to 31st December, 1967:-

Table A

Registrations and General Inspections

	No. of premises registered during year	No. of premises registered at end of year	No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection
Offices	4	41	25
Retail Shops	1	93	28
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	-	3	6
Catering Establish- ments open to public	-	4	4
Fuel Storage Depots	-	-	-
TOTALS	5	141	63

Table B

Number of visits of all kinds by
Inspectors to Registered Premises 63

Table C

Analysis of persons employed in Registered Premises

Class of Workplace	Number of persons employed
Offices	327
Retail Shops	335
Wholesale Departments	108
Catering Establishments open to Public	39
Canteens	14
Fuel Storage Depots	-
TOTAL	823
TOTAL MALES	377
TOTAL FEMALES	446

S E C T I O N X

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

FOOD PREMISES

There are 165 food premises in the town, which are classified as follows:-

56	General groceries and provisions, including 4 outdoor beer licences
10	Premises with bakehouses and shops selling bread and confectionery
27	Licensed Premises
14	Premises selling sweets
6	Fish and chip shops
9	Greengrocers, including 4 selling wet fish
13	Butchers shops
20	Canteens
1	Ice-cream factory
4	Cafes
5	Dairies

Seventy of the above premises are registered for the sale of ice-cream.

FOOD HYGIENE (GEN.) REGULATIONS 1960

Premises	No. of Premises	No. Complying with Reg. 16	No. to which Reg. 19 applies	No. Complying with Reg. 19
Licensed Premises	27	27	27	27
Cafes	4	4	4	4
Canteens	20	20	20	20
Grocery & General Provisions	56	56	56	56
Greengrocery (inc. Wet Fish)	9	9	9	9
Bakehouses	10	10	10	10
Confectioners (i.e. Sweets)	14	14	14	14
Fish, Chips and Pies	6	6	6	6
Butchers	13	13	13	13

All have been inspected and contraventions and defects have been notified to the owners. These contraventions and defects have been remedied or are in hand.

MARKET

The Food Hygiene (Market Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1966 came into force on the 1st January, 1967. These regulations specify standards for food businesses carried on from stalls or delivery vehicles in relation to

cleanliness of equipment, personal cleanliness, wrapping of food, washing facilities, storage and refuse disposal. Exemptions are provided for certain businesses upon application.

The market has been inspected periodically during the year and conditions are satisfactory.

SAMPLING OF COOKED MEATS ETC.

Forty-five samples of meat, meat products and other foods have been taken for bacteriological examination during the year. Three of these were found to be unsatisfactory.

Following investigations and advice, subsequent samples from the same premises were entirely satisfactory.

THE LIQUID EGG (PASTEURISATION) REGULATIONS 1963

There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the district.

No samples of liquid egg were submitted to the Alpha-Amylase test.

POULTRY INSPECTION

There are no poultry processing premises within the district.

ICE-CREAM MANUFACTURE

There is only one premise in the town registered for the manufacture of ice-cream and similar products. This factory is regularly inspected and ice-cream samples are taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination.

During the year ten samples of ice-cream were submitted for bacteriological examination and the results are tabulated below:-

GRADE I	...	...	...	...	...	6 samples
GRADE II	...	...	...	...	...	3 samples
GRADE III	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
GRADE IV	...	...	...	...	...	1 sample

The sample which fell into Grade four was unsatisfactory and upon investigation it was found that despite being kept in an insulated container the sample had melted and contamination from the wrapper had occurred. Subsequent samples from the same premises all fell into Grade one.

One sample of fresh cream was taken and reported upon as satisfactory.

MILK SUPPLY

Close liaison exists between this Department and the Public Health Inspectors of the Cheshire County Council in the control of milk supplies within the area. There are 28 premises registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations to sell pre-packed milk. One of these premises bottles untreated milk.

The following tables show the results of tests on samples of milk taken by the County Council Inspectors.

Table 1.

Type of Test	Taken by C.C.		Taken by U.D.C.	
	Satis.	Unsatis.	Satis.	Unsatis.
1. Methylene Blue	96	3	-	-
2. Phosphatase	81	-	-	-
3. Turbidity	5	-	-	-

- 1. Measures the keeping quality of the milk.
- 2. Measures the efficiency of the Pasteurisation process.
- 3. Measures the efficiency of the Sterilising process.

Table 2.

	Taken by C.C.		Taken by U.D.C.	
	Bulk	Individual	Bulk	Individual
Brucella Negative	30	46	-	-
Brucella Positive	-	10	-	-
Tubercular Negative	4	-	-	-
Tubercular Positive	-	-	-	-
Penicillin Levels ≤ 0.05 iu	30	-	-	-
Penicillin Levels > 0.05 iu	-	-	-	-

MILK AND DAIRIES (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1959 REGULATION 20

At the beginning of the year samples of milk from two herds gave strongly positive ring tests. Subsequent investigations showed that there were

respectively eight calves and two cows on these farms excreting *Brucella Abortus* organisms. Although no milk was being sold raw to the public, both farms were licenced to do so. In view of this Regulation 20 Notices were served, and the owners warned of the dangers of drinking the untreated milk themselves.

Later in the year information was received that their licences to sell raw milk had lapsed and the Regulation 20 Notices were therefore formally withdrawn.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1958

During the year 26 licences to slaughter animals were issued; those licences can be divided into three categories (a) 14 full licences; (b) 9 licences to slaughter pigs only; (c) 3 provisional licences.

The provisional licences are issued for a period of 6 months only and the holder is not allowed to slaughter or stun any animal unless he is working under the supervision of a person holding a current full licence.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION

There are 5 licensed slaughterhouses in the area, only 4 of which slaughter regularly. The other slaughterhouse is fully equipped to slaughter animals but has so far not commenced such activities.

The recent epidemic of Foot and Mouth disease caused some disruption of the meat inspection service and resulted in a certain amount of overtime being worked. The department co-operated with the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food Veterinary Officers in the area and this resulted in letters of commendation being received from the slaughterhouse operators and area supervisors of the Ministry.

BACTERIOLOGICAL MEAT INSPECTION

Every endeavour is made to co-operate in matters of animal health with the Divisional Veterinary Officer and his field workers. The Ministry now operates a 24-hour bacteriological examination service to help meat inspectors with problems not normally found during the course of routine examination.

In addition to the above 29 bacteriological examinations were carried out in the department's own laboratory, resulting in 10 carcasses being passed for manufacturing purposes, which otherwise would have been condemned.

In conditions where cancerous tissue is found the results of specialist examination are of great value to the department, both in broadening our knowledge of such conditions and in assessing the fitness or otherwise of a carcass. In such cases a specimen is forwarded to the Department of Veterinary Pathology at the University of Liverpool, where the material and associated report may also prove useful for research and teaching purposes.

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number killed	917	4	2,942	89,043
Number inspected	917	4	2,942	89,043
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI</u>				
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	1	344
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	224	-	83	11,723
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	24.43%	-	2.86%	13.45%
<u>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY</u>				
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	1,002
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	1.13%
<u>CYSTICERCOSIS</u>				
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS:

The County Police administer this Act. There were numerous notifications of suspected Anthrax. Most of these concerned pigs which died or were dead on arrival at one of the slaughterhouses. None of the suspected cases was confirmed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Veterinary Surgeon.

UNSOUND FOOD

Under the Unsound Food Provisions 1,809 lbs. 15 ozs. of various food products were found to be unfit for human consumption and condemned.

One complaint was received from a member of the public during the year. The complaint received was regarding an insect infestation in three Easter Eggs purchased locally. The manufacturer identified the insects as *ptinus tectus* or spider beetle, which is a pest of stored products. The coding on the pack gave the manufacturing date as some eighteen months earlier, in fact the produce was intended for sale during Easter, 1966. The Health Committee instructed that a warning letter be sent to the retailer responsible.

The importance of the public referring complaints of unsound food and unhygienic conditions to the department cannot be over-emphasized. Our basic aim is to advise the vendor or manufacturer on steps which should be taken to prevent a recurrence of the complaint.

'DEEP FREEZE' FOOD FACILITIES

During the year all food shops with deep freeze cabinets were circulated. The circular informed shop keepers to adhere to manufacturers instructions and not to store frozen foods in cabinets above the load line and not to display frozen foods outside of the deep freeze.

Both these practices lead at least to a deterioration in the quality of the food and at worst to the growth of food poisoning organisms.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT 1955 - COUNTY COUNCIL WEIGHTS AND MEASURES DEPARTMENT

Inspectors of the above department took samples of 71 varied articles of food in the Winsford Urban District during 1967. 4 of these samples were not up to standard, details of these unsatisfactory samples were as follows:-

<u>No.</u>	<u>Sample</u>	<u>Result of Analysis</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1.	Milk (Pasteurised)	Sub-standard but genuine. 1.1% deficient in solids non-fat.	No Action
2.	Milk (Sterilized)	"	No Action
3.	Milk (Pasteurised)	"	No Action
4.	Buttered Mints	Deficient in butter. Contained 0.5% fat.	Informal sample. Manufacturer discontinued.

In addition, the following complaints were received from private purchasers:-

<u>From</u>	<u>Nature</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Householder	Steak pie containing Bovine hair.	Seller fined £20. Costs £4. 1. 1.
Housewife	Insect in tin of minced meat loaf.	Wholesaler cautioned.
Householder	Grub in milk chocolate.	Seller cautioned.
